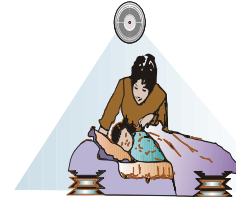


White Earth Sleep Safe Program White Earth Minnesota



Hello, I'm Kay Sunram, the Sleep Safe Coordinator for White Earth Head Start. Our Head Start serves five communities on the Reservation.

We have been involved with the Sleep Safe program for 7 years. We have installed 1326 smoke alarms in homes of students 0-5 years old. Before our Sleep Safe Program started, baseline surveys of homes on the White Earth Reservation revealed that less than 50% had a working smoke alarm. During our last round of follow up home visits in Spring 2006, we found that 94% of our student's homes had at least one working smoke alarm! In addition, we have heard of several stories of people being alerted to house fires by smoke alarms that we installed.



Pictured receiving a 2005 Sleep Safe Lifesaver's Award: Chris Allen, IHS Service Unit Environmental Health Officer, Kay Sunram, White Earth Sleep Safe Coordinator, Robert Thelen, Sr., Home Base Visitor, Elbow Lake Head Start, and Kevin Hedstrom, White Earth Head Start Director

The Sleep Safe Program dramatically improved our Head Start Programs Injury Prevention component by providing training, guidance and follow-up assistance. This program has greatly increased the safety of our participating homes, and in some cases has saved lives. Head Start will continue to collaborate with other agencies & Tribal Departments to expand this program, and other Injury Prevention Services to all who desire to participate in improving the safety of their family & community.



For more information about the Bemidji Area IHS Sleep Safe Program, contact Diana Kuklinski at 218-444-0503, diana.kuklinski@ihs.gov

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